

## **BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL**

**At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022.**

### **Present**

Cllr P Crozier	Chair of Council
Cllr. P. Dennis	Cllr. B. Lamb
Cllr. R. Leithall	Cllr. D. King
Cllr J Maciejowska	Cllr. R. Maycock
Cllr. D. Pengelly	Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury
Cllr. H. Peace	Cllr H Rogers
Cllr C Shaw	

### **483. Apologies**

All members of the Council were present at the meeting.

### **484. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr. B Lamb declared an interest in the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group.

### **485. Notifications of items of interest as the discretion of the chair. No action can be taken on these items.**

Cllr. Dennis reported that on arrival at the Parish Hall that morning, there was debris and two wooden panels around the entrance and three large balls on the roof. Cllr. Dennis cleared up the area and the Workman retrieved the balls. Three youths, requesting the return of the balls, were asked to attend the Council Chambers that evening, to make arrangements with the Clerk to have the balls returned.

Cllr. Lamb wished that the continuing issue of the local housing crisis be put on the next Council's agenda and that the Council discuss a plan of action, to work alongside West Devon Borough Council. Cllr. Crozier provided further information on the housing situation in the area and that West Devon Borough Council is keen to build more houses, in partnership with Livewest, but land was required to build these houses on.

Cllr. Lamb discussed the idea of the Councillors conducting a workshop to discuss any changes required or recommendations for the Council, which should be undertaken sometime this year.

Cllr. King asked, on behalf of the Carnival Committee, if the Council would consider having a float in the carnival this year. The theme is Music of the Reign and Carnival week will start on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

### **486. Chair's Report**

Cllr. Crozier detailed the recent incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour and evidence of drug use in Bere Alston. All incidents have been reported to the Police. The vandalism in the toilets resulted in them being closed at 3 pm. A meeting with the local Police Community Support Officer with the Chair, Vice Chair, the Clerk and members of staff is to take place at the Council Chambers on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the issues in the village.

The opening ceremony for the new zip wire installed at the Bere Ferrers recreational field, will be on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 2.30 pm and all members are welcome to attend.

The new water pipe at the Bere Alston recreational field has been installed. Other works, including improvements to the dog field entrance have also been completed.

### **487. Reports from the District and County Councillors**

Cllr. P. Sanders from Devon County Council and Cllr. A. Blackman from West Devon Borough Council were unable to attend the meeting and sent their apologies to the Council. The district report was delivered under the Chair's Report.

**488. To approve and adopt the amended minutes from the Council meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Rogers proposed approval of the amended minutes, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

Matters Arising

Minute 442 (395)

To thank and acknowledge Paul Gentle, the retiring Chair and Trustee of the Bere Alston Regeneration Partnership, for all his hard work over the last 20 years, the Council wish to publicly thank him and present him with a gift at the Parish Annual meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May. The Clerk to invite Mr Gentle to the meeting.

Minute 444 (422)

The Council are still waiting for the cycle stands to be delivered.

Cllr. Peace proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

**SO, RESOLVED**

**489. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> April as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Maycock proposed approval of the minutes. Seconded by Cllr. Peace.

Matters Arising

Minute 450

Cllr. Maycock confirmed a meeting to start the review the Neighbourhood plan, will take place on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at Hope Cottage.

Cllr. Maycock proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

**SO, RESOLVED**

**490. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Pengelly proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King

Matters Arising

Minute No 460

The Clerk to contact the person posting business flyers on telegraph polls and request that they be removed.

Minute 462 (410)

Cllr. Pengelly was disappointed that the wet spot at the Pavilion was not dealt with during the period the Council had hired the digger. Cllr. Crozier confirmed that the ground will be raised with some of the excess soil.

Minute 464

The Clerk to put a list together of all the repairs required for the playparks and open spaces highlighted in the Rospa Reports and a meeting between Cllrs. Crozier and Pengelly and the Workman to be arranged and see what needs to be done.

Minute 467

The issue of the bin at Pilgrim Drive was discussed. It was decided to put a notice on the bin; 'This bin will be removed if household waste of food continues to be placed in it.'

Minute 469

There is one allotment available at the Bere Ferrers site.

Minute 470

A Community Wellbeing event is taking place in the Bere Alston Parish Hall, 2 – 5 pm on Tuesday 17 May. The event is promoting insulation in houses and highlighting that grants are available to those on low income. If members know of anyone who might qualify, to tell them to come along.

Cllr. King proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

**SO, RESOLVED**

**491. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Finance & General Purposes meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Leithall proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

**Matters Arising**

**Minute 475**

The Trustees of Beregen feel that the Fire Service contract should now be in Beregen's name and approx. 15% of the costs, as stated in the agreement between Beregen and the Council, be charged back to the Council. Cllr. Dennis confirmed with the members of the Council that 3 years ago Beregen was in poor financial state and the Chair of Beregen asked the Council to take on contract, until they were financially viable again.

**Minute 480**

Due to recent vandalism, the toilets were being closed early and it had solved the issue. The opening hours will go back to normal, but if further incidents of vandalism occur, they will be closed early again and notices placed on the gates to indicate why.

Cllr. Crozier proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

**SO, RESOLVED**

**492. Discuss F & G.P Committee's recommendations**

Cllr. Crozier proposed going into part 2, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

Cllr. Leithall proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

Cllr. Lamb proposed that the amendment to the clerk's contract be actioned, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska. All in favour.

Cllr. Crozier proposed offering to pay the Workman any overtime done during the period the Council hired the digger, rather than it be taken off as time in lieu. Seconded by Cllr. Leithall. All in favour.

**493. Interviews for the vacant Councillor position.**

The first to be interviewed for the vacancy was Mr. Simon Russell OBE. Mr Russell gave a short talk on his background, why he wished to become a Councillor and what he felt he could bring to the Council. Councillors were then given an opportunity to ask Mr. Russell questions.

The second to be interviewed for the vacancy was Mr. Stuart McQueen. Mr. McQueen gave the members a short talk on his background, why he wished to become a Councillor and what he felt he could bring to the Council. Councillors were then given an opportunity to ask Mr. McQueen questions.

The Chair thanked them both for attending the meeting and stated that after a secret vote, the successful candidate will be notified by the Clerk the following day.

Cllr. Crozier proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

Cllr. Crozier proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

The Clerk confirmed that after a secret vote, Mr Simon Russell had been elected as the new Councillor. The Clerk to inform Mr. Simon Russell tomorrow.

**494. Venue for the Parish Annual Meeting, scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Due to the poor acoustics in the Parish Hall, Cllr. Crozier proposed the meeting be held in the Bere Ferrers Church Hall, seconded by Cllr. Graeme-Drury.

## **495. Correspondence**

1. Cllr. Graeme-Drury would like a copy of the Voting Tree picture currently hanging in the Council Chambers, but it does also require restoration.

Cllr. Maciejowska proposed that Cllr. Graeme-Drury look into having the picture restored, seconded by Cllr. King

2. The Clerk read out an email from the Secretary of the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group:  
As part of the Parish Jubilee celebrations, there Bere Ferrers Villagers Group offered to organise a 1950's Children's Fund afternoon on the Bere Ferrers Recreation Field from 2 pm to 5 pm, on Thursday 2 June 2022. Unfortunately, we find this difficult for us to operate due to the steep insurance charges required for a one-day policy.

Therefore, we would ask the Parish Council to consider acting as the organiser for this event and Cllr. Brain Lamb has offered, subject to your approval, to manage the event on behalf of the Parish Council and thereby ensuring that it complies with all safety and insurance requirements, including of first aid.

We will of course assist Brian, staffing a during all the events, including supervisors within the actual Play Park with the new Zip wire.

Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council act as the organiser for this event, seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

3. The Clerk read out a letter from the Secretary of the Carnival Committee detailing the proposed schedule for the Carnival week beginning with the Carnival parade on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022, Quiz night on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and finishing with the Fun Day on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2022. They also request permission to use the recreational field for the congregating and judging of floats and will respect the wishes of the council to keep large vehicles and trailers away from the sensitive grass areas, especially during wet weather. Also, we would request that we can have use of the toilet's facilities at the football pitch during this time too.

It was discussed that the Football Club would also need to be informed on the use of the toilet facilities. Cllr. Maciejowska proposed the Council give their permission to use the field, seconded by Cllr. Drury-Graeme.

4. Cllr. Peace requested, as the stock of the Footpath Guides is low and that the Footpaths & Environment Committee are not due to meet till 7<sup>th</sup> June, a Task & Finish Group meeting to held to discuss any changes/amended required, before ordering a reprint.
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Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council act as the organiser for this event, seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

6. Cllr. Lamb confirmed that the Opening Ceremony of the new zip wire in the Bere Ferrers recreational field will be on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022 at 2.30 pm. All members of the Council are welcome.

**496. Questions from any members of the public present, at the discretion of the Chairman.**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.42 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022